

Saltcedar Biological Control

using *Diorhabda elongata*

Earl Andress
USDA APHIS

Diorhabda elongata (Saltcedar Leaf Beetle)

family Chrysomelidae, subfamily Galerucinae

- Imported from Asia / Mediterranean
- 5-6 mm long and 2-3 mm wide
- Egg to adult 3-4 weeks: more rapidly in field than in lab
- Lifespan several months
- 400 eggs /female
- 1-2 generations / year (probably more in southern areas)



Photo by Ray Carruthers

Safety

- Host specificity
 - Tamarix spp
 - Frankinia
- Natural enemies
 - Tachinidae
 - Ants
 - Vertebrates

Release sites

- CA
 - NV
 - CO
 - WY
 - UT
 - TX
 - NM
- Proposed
 - North of 37th parallel

D. Elongata **larvae** on Saltcedar



Photo by Ray Carruthers

D. elongata Damage



Damaged vs. Undamaged



Photo by Dan Bean

NV Release site 2002



Photo by Allen Brinkerhoff

NV Release Site August 2003



Photo by the landowner

Further information and contacts

- Search **diorhabda elongata**
- <http://www.wes.army.mil/el/aqua/apis/biocontrol/html/diorhabd.html>
- <http://mtwow.org/Diorhabda-elongata.htm>
- <http://wric.ucdavis.edu/exotic/techtran/juli.htm#release>
- Earl Andress **(760) 550 - 0281**